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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY India

SUBJECT A Student's Comments on Education Since Independence/
Aerial Oil SurveysPLACE ACQUIRED
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1. "There are a total of six high schools [redacted] Bengali girls' high school. In [redacted] there are 600 boys and 26 teachers. Pinsukia is a little town with a population composed of [redacted]
2. "At first we have to study in primary schools. There are five classes in these schools and in them we learn our mother tongue. Before we finish our education we attend high school which has eight classes. English is a compulsory subject in high school and we must study English simultaneously with our mother tongue, Assamese. After one year in high school we then must study Hindi, the common language of India - so we thus must learn three languages. We also must study geography, history and mathematics - all of which are compulsory. In our fifth year we must learn Sanskrit which is not compulsory for Moslem students but is necessary for Hindus. On the other hand, Moslem students must read Persian in place of Sanskrit. Thus we must learn four languages during our school life.
3. "In universities we can learn French, Urdu, Latin and other foreign languages. In high school science is an additional subject but in place of it we can substitute additional courses in mathematics or in commercial geography or in public administration.
4. "Our government has made up its mind to abolish English as a compulsory language as it desires to establish Hindi as the compulsory

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language for India. When we finish, or successfully pass, our matriculation examination in high school then we can go on to college. Without successfully passing this matriculation examination one cannot enter college. This system of education was established by the English government and is still prevalent in our land but now with our self-government our people are gradually changing this system since the English educational system is considered to be not practical but only theoretical. The English only established their system to make the Indian people dull and spiritless. Because of this one of our great scholars has said that our universities are but the work shops of the clerks and thereby produce thousands and thousands of clerks every year. The British government erected a theoretical India but not a practical India. Now, under our self-government, we have made up our minds to build up a new India. Our new government has handed over different projects for the development of its peoples. Perhaps you know of the five year plan for our land. Through this plan the government has plans to develop education, agriculture, community projects and other items on the local level.

5. "Numerous different races and tribes live in our land of Assam. These include Assamese, Bengali, Gureati, Pungaki, Bawari, Nepali and Madreassi. All have their own language, literature and history but all are Indian. There are different classes in every race of these yet we are unified and we appreciate the fact that different peoples have different religion. We like our Prime Minister Nehru as we do other national leaders, including Eisenhower, Churchill, Malenkov, Cheddi Jagan and Mao Tse Tung.
6. "Of course, you know that three helicopters of your land are now arriving in our State of Assam. It is generally understood that these three helicopters have come to survey for oil in Assam. It is understood that they will survey the Brahmaputra Valley and cover an area of about four thousand square miles. At Naharekotia, a little town in upper Assam, a deep mineral oil source has been found. The surveyors have said there are large deposits of oil still unfound in our land of Assam.

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